

Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend, at page 1, the section "Cross Reference to Related Applications" to read as follows:

This application is a continuation of ~~co~~pending U.S. Patent application Serial No. 09/406,013, filed September 24, 1999, which issued as U.S. Patent No. 6,423,505, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent application serial no. 09/204,860, filed December 3, 1998, which issued as U.S. Patent No. 6,200,766, the disclosures of both of which are incorporated herein by reference in their entirety.

Please amend the paragraph spanning pages 21-22 to read as follows:

However, the CY5 moiety of these tandem fluorophores has been shown to bind directly to CD64 (FcγRI) giving spurious, antibody-independent, signals on CD64⁺ cells. van Vugt *et al.*, *Blood* 88:2358-2360 (1996). This antibody-independent binding has motivated considerable efforts in the art to mask the CY5 moiety to reduce the spurious binding to CD64 molecules presented on the surface of peripheral blood cells as described, *inter alia*, in ~~commonly owned and co~~pending U.S. patent application no. 08/943,491, filed October 3, 1997, which issued as U.S. Patent No. 6,133,429, the disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.